

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

Initially the undersigned would like to thank Examiners Capron and Sager for the courtesies extended during an oral hearing held with the undersigned on July 30, 2002. During the above noted oral hearing the outstanding official action was discussed in detail and the undersigned was greatly aided in formulating an appropriate response thereto.

The claims have been amended so as to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as agreed to at the above noted oral hearing.

In response to the Examiner's rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 101, Applicants have amended claims 1, 5-7 and 9 so as to clearly set forth the display means for providing an execution result executed by the dividend determining means to the better. Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims now comply with 35 U.S.C. 101. The disclosure for the added claim subject matter is set forth on Page 17, lines 18-21 and on Page 20, lines 3-5 and 11-13.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims as presently pending comply with the formal requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and 35 U.S.C. 101.

An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

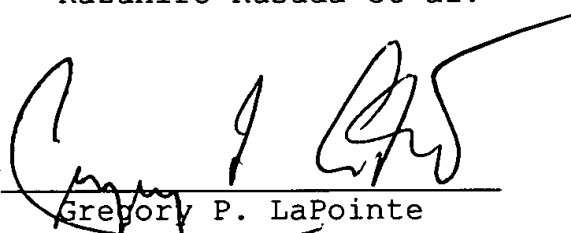
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

on September 26, 2002
(Date of Deposit)
Rachel Piscitelli
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Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made to the claims

1. (Amended) A gaming machine comprising:

dividend determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a bettor who has won a lottery with a predetermined probability, said lottery including a plurality of objects with predetermined probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the bettor;

display means for providing an execution result executed by said dividend determining means to the bettor,

said dividend determining means comprising:

setting means for setting a target payout rate and [the] a probability of winning of each of the objects and for setting odds on each of the objects based on the target payout rate and the probability of winning;

ordering means for arranging the objects in order of the probability of winning;

first correction means or approximately correcting the odds on the object in [the] a highest place to odds with a predetermined number of digits, correcting the probability of winning of the object in the highest place based on the corrected odds, reflecting the difference between [the] an uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of subsequent place, redetermining the odds on the object in the

subsequent place based on the corrected probability of winning of the object in the subsequent place, and repetitively performing [the] a whole processing for the objects in all places; and

second correction means for approximately correcting the predetermined odds on the object in last place to odds with a predetermined number of digits, redetermining the probability of winning based on the approximated odds, and again reflecting the difference between the probability of winning and the redetermined probability of winning at predetermined ratios in the probabilities of winning of all the objects, and

wherein said display means displaying the final odds obtained by said first and second correction means.

5. (Amended) A gaming machine comprising:

dividend determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a bettor who has won a lottery with a predetermined probability, said lottery including a plurality of objects with predetermined probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the bettor;

display means for providing an execution result executed by said dividend determining means to the bettor,

said dividend determining means comprising:

setting means for setting a target payout rate and [the] a probability of winning of each of the objects and for setting provisional odds on each of the objects based on the target payout rate and the probability of winning;

ordering means for arranging the objects in order;

first correction means for approximately correcting the odds on the object in first place to odds with a predetermined number of digits, correcting the probability of winning of the object in the first place based on the corrected odds, reflecting the difference between [the] an uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning of the object in [the] a subsequent place, redetermining the odds on the object in the subsequent place based on the corrected probability of winning of the object in the subsequent place, and repetitively performing [the] a whole processing for the objects in all places; and

second correction means for approximately correcting the redetermined odds on the object in last place to odds with a predetermined number of digits, redetermining the probability of winning based on the approximated odds, and again reflecting the difference between the probability of winning and the redetermined probability of winning at predetermined ratios in the probabilities of winning of all the objects, and

wherein said display means displaying the final odds
obtained by said first and second correction means.

6. (Amended) An operation method for a gaming machine
comprising dividend determining means for determining a dividend
to be paid to a bettor who has won a bet on a race with a
predetermined probability, the race including a plurality of
objects with predetermined probabilities of winning, and for
indicating the dividend to the bettor, and display means for
providing an execution result executed by said dividend
determining means,

said operation method comprising the steps of:

setting a target payout rate and [the] a probability of
winning of each of the objects and setting odds on each of the
objects based on the target payout rate and the probability of
winning;

rearranging data on the objects in descending order of the
probability of winning; and

performing correction processing with said gaming machine,
said correction processing including the steps of:

approximately correcting the odds on the object with [the]
a highest probability of winning to numeric data with a
predetermined number of digits;

correcting the probability of winning based on the corrected odds;

obtaining the difference between the uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning;

reflecting the difference in the probability of winning and in the odds on the object in the subsequent place;

repetitively performing the whole processing until the object with the lowest probability of winning is processed;

allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning of the last object among the corrected probabilities of winning of the objects at predetermined ratios; and

displaying the final odds obtained by the correction processing on said display means.

7. (Amended) An operation method for a gaming machine comprising dividend determining means for determining a dividend to be paid to a bettor who has won a bet on a lottery with a predetermined probability in straight betting and quinella betting, said lottery including a plurality of objects with predetermined probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the bettor, and display means for providing an execution result executed by said dividend determining means,

said operation method comprising the steps of:

setting a target payout rate and a probability of winning of each of straight bets and quinella bets and setting odds on each of the straight bets and the quinella bets based on the target payout rate and the probability of winning;

rearranging data on the quinella bets in descending order of the probability of winning;

approximately correcting the odds on the quinella bet with [the] a highest probability of winning to numeric data with a predetermined number of digits, correcting the probability of winning based on the corrected odds, obtaining the difference between [the] an uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning, reflecting the difference in the probability of winning and in the odds on the quinella bet in [the] a subsequent place, repetitively performing [the] a whole processing until the quinella bet with the lowest probability of winning is corrected, and allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning of the last quinella bet in accordance with the corrected probabilities of winning of the quinella bets;

reflecting the corrected probabilities of winning of the quinella bets in the probabilities of winning of the straight bets and redetermining the odds on the straight bets;

rearranging data on the straight bets in descending order of the probability of winning; and

performing correction processing with said gaming machine,
said correction processing including the steps of:

approximately correcting the odds on the straight bet with
the highest probability of winning to numeric data with a
predetermined number of digits;

correcting the probability of winning based on the
corrected odds;

obtaining the difference between the uncorrected
probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning;

reflecting the difference in the probability of winning and
in the odds on the straight bet in the subsequent place;

repetitively performing the whole processing until the
straight bet with the lowest probability of winning is
corrected; [and]

allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning
of the last straight bet in accordance with the corrected
probabilities of winning of the straight bets, and

displaying the final odds obtained by the correction
processing on said display means.

9. (Amended) An operation method for a gaming machine
comprising dividend determining means for determining a dividend
to be paid to a bettor who has won a bet on the race with a
predetermined probability, the race including a plurality of

objects with predetermined probabilities of winning, and for indicating the dividend to the bettor, and display means for providing an execution result executed by said dividend determining means,

said operation method comprising the steps of:

setting a target payout rate and [the] a probability of winning of each of the objects and setting odds on each of the objects based on the target payout rate and the probability of winning;

rearranging data on the objects in order; and

performing correction processing with said gaming machine, said correction processing including the steps of:

approximately correcting the odds on the object in first place to numeric data with a predetermined number of digits;

correcting the probability of winning based on the corrected odds;

obtaining the difference between the uncorrected probability of winning and the corrected probability of winning;

reflecting the difference in the probability of winning and in the odds on the object in the subsequent place;

repetitively performing the whole processing until the object in the last place is processed; and

allocating the difference in the probabilities of winning
of the last object in accordance with the corrected
probabilities of winning of the objects, and
displaying the final odds obtained by the correction
processing on said display means.